

Maunsel White to Andrew Jackson, June 14, 1827, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

MAUNSEL WHITE TO JACKSON.

New Orleans, June 14, 1827.

Genl. Andrew Jackson.

Dear Sir, I am now in rect. of your esteemed favors of 10th 16. and 28 May, and feel much gratified that my course has met your approbation. and the result is that I have at last Obtained my price for your Cotton, say 9 cents allround, I dare not hold on any longer, and truly when it was brot. out for Examination I feared for some which was negligently handled, yet after considerable Obstinacy on the part of the Enemy, I succeeded in getting in the Whole. When we began to Weigh it I was surprised to find it loose 12, 14 and 20 lb. Bale. I immediately changed the Pattent Balances got others and tried it in every way, seeing that nothing could change, our Weights to corrispond with yours. I waited on the messr. Dicks who recd. the Cotton you sold, at home, I asked them how it held out, and they shewed me that it lost 9 lb. pr. Bale on an Average, and Laughed at me, for not being aware that Nearly all Cotton which had lain here any length of time and which was put up as planters generally do put up their Cottons in damp Weather, loose considerably, if stored in Open sheds and any way exposed to the dry Scorching weather which we have had here for nearly two Months. I then continued to Weigh it and it looses Nearly 12 lb. pr Bale on an Average, but to shew the powerful effect of the dry weather, It will be manifest when I inform you that a few Bales which lay at the Bottom of the Pile stowed away where sun or Air could not get at them well, lost very little indeed in Comparison. Mr. Foristal the Broker who bot. it from me, weighed it like gold for I stood by the time. I

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could not have supposed that the Weather would have had such an effect. I knew that cotton would loose from 6 or 8 lb. in three months and much less proportion afterwards and in very damp Foggy weather will again, gain, it seems to be something of the nature of a sponge with more attraction. The next question is, are your Ballances Correct, here we have them regulated twice a year, agreeably to the standard. at any rate so it is and I feel much Mortified that they have not held out. enclosed I Send you the Accot Sales Nt proceeds \$3062 55/100 and by mr Stacker who leaves here in A few days I shall send you the Balance I shall owe you. I was Afraid to hold up any longer, for fear of letting the sale slip thro my Fingers, besides having Got. $\frac{1}{4}$ of Cent more than my Neighbours, owing however to a little liveliness in the Liverpool Market which I fearing would again subside, I was determined to embrace. I know of no price now abroad which will Warrant, more's being given. it is your Name alone therefore that has sold yr Cotton.

I have only to add that your Friends here will be overjoyed to see you,¹ and one good thing is they are Sinc[e]re, and Speak with enthusiasm of the contemplated Meeting. I have not seen Mr. Delacy yet altho I called several times at his Lodgings. be assured it will give me great pleasure, to shew any civility in my power to any of your Friends, and if I were not well assure'd that you will be provided with Lodgings, I would ask you to honor my humble dwelling during yr stay with yr. Friends here. with my best Wishes for yr success, and yrs and mrs Jacksons welfare I remain

¹ Probably refers to Jackson's visit to New Orleans Jan. 8, 1828, to be present at the battle-ground celebration, planned by his friends for political effect.